

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 SANA 00185 120821Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05  
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01  
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 OMB-01 TRSE-00 SSM-03  
ACDA-12 HA-05 /113 W  
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R 111230Z JAN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY SANA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3500  
INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

S E C R E T SANA 185

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR, YE  
SUBJECT: ALGERIAN PRESIDENT VISITS YAR

BEGIN SUMMARY: VISIT OF ALGERIAN PRESIDENT TO YEMEN  
HAS LITTLE LILATERAL OR ARAB SIGNIFICANCE BUT PROVIDES NEW  
YAR PRESIDENT GHASHMI WITH SOME OF RECOGNITION HE NEEDS  
SO BADLY. END SUMMARY.

1. MOUMEDIENE VISIT TO YEMEN APPARENTLY OCCURRED AS  
RESULT "TYPICAL ASNAJ MANEUVER," AS ONE YEMENI OFFICIAL  
CALLED IT HAPPILY. OBJECT WAS TO MAKE SURE THT ARAB  
CHIEF OF STATE WHO VISITED ADEN DIDN'T OMIT STOP IN  
SANA TOO, PARTICULARLY AT TIME WHEN NEW YAR PRESIDENT  
GHASHMI NEEDS RECOGNITION AND RESPECTABILITY.

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2. ALGERIAN PRESIDENT WAS CLOCKED IN AND OUT IN LESS  
THAN TWELVE HOURS, BUT IF HE EXPECTED TO SHIFT YEMENIS  
AWAY FROM THEIR ACTIVITIES IN SUPPORT OF EGYPTIAN  
INITIATIVE, HE GOT NOWHERE. AT STATE DINNER MIN-  
INTERIOR UYSUFI LEANED OVER TABLE TO AMBASSADOR AND  
SAID PR.7\$)6, "NO MATTER WHAT THEY SAY KNONE OF  
ALGERIAN GUESTS WAS AT TABLE) WE'RE STILL FOR SADAT."

3. ALL YEMENI OFFICIALS WE'VE TALKED TO SWEAR THAT BOUMEDIENE BROUGHT NO MESSAGES FROM SOUTH, AND DID NOT SUGGEST MEDIATION WITH SAUDIS AND SOUTH. ALGERIA ONCE TRIED TO BRING NORTH AND SOUTH YEMEN TOGETHER, SAYS ONE KNOWLEDGEABLE OFFICIAL, SPENDING RATHER A LOT OF EFFORT AND MONEY BETWEEN 1967 AND 1971 BUT THEY HAVE NO YEMEN POLICY NOW. IT'S TOO FAR AFIELD. THEY DON'T WANT TO RIVAL SAUDIS OR EGYPTIANS NOW, IF THAT WAS AIM OF EARLIER POLICY. IN FACT, ALU BOUMEDIENE TALKED ABOUT WAS SAHARA.

4. SUMMING UP VISIT IN SARDONIC MANNER, SAME OFFICIAL -- HUSAYN HUBAYSHI -- TOLD DCM THAT ALGSRIANS SEEM TO MAKE THEIR POLICY ON PALESTINE WHILE FACING WEST, TOWARD THEIR MOROCCAN ANTAGONIST ON SAHARAN AND OTHER QUESTIONS WHICH THEY CONSIDER REALLY IMPORTANT. (HUBAYSHI ALSO SAID HE WISHED YEMENIS HAD RID THEMSELVES OF PRESIDENT HAMDI WAY ALGERIANS HAD PEACEFJLLY DEPOSED BEN BELLA.)

5. BOUMEDIENE VISIT MAY HAVE BEEN OF INDIFFERENT VALUE WHERE ARAB AND BILATERAL ISSUES CONCERNED, BUT HIS TALL, BURNOOSED FIGURE EVOKED GENUINELY ENTHUSIAS- TIC AND RESPECTFUL REACTION FROM YEMENIS IN AND OUT OF GOVERNMENT. JAMMED STREETS APPLAUDED FURIOUSLY, EVEN  
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THOUGH CROWDS CLEARLY HAD TROUBLE DISTINGUISHING VERY WELL-DRESSED BODYGUARDS HANGING OUT WINDOWS THEIR CARS FROM VERY WELL-DRESSED PRESIDENT SITTING IN HIS CAR. AT BANQUET, HOWEVER, THERE WAS NO MISTAKING SURGE OF EMOTION THAT PASSED THROUGH ROOM WHEN YEMENIS HAILED BOUMEDIENE AS "SYMBOL OF THE MILLION MARTYRS." NATIONAL STRUGGLE AND DEVELOPMENT OF ALGERIA IS CLEARLY WELL KNOWN AND HONORED HERE.  
SCOTES

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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**TAGS:** PFOR, OVIP, YE, AG, (BOUMEDIENE, HOUARI)  
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